



FAMILY NEWS

Upcoming Events:

- December 5:**
Youth Christmas Party at 7:00 pm
- December 7:**
Free Breakfast; 6:30-9:30 am
- December 8:**
Emmanuwheel Ramp Build at 8:00 am. See Cliff Brown for information.
- December 9:**
FIT Food List
spaghetti sauce and noodles, peanut butter, jelly, boxes of cereal, canned fruit, mac & cheese, cash donations
- December 15:**
Breakfast with Santa at 9:30 am
- December 16:**
Christmas Turkey Food List: dressing mix, green beans, canned sweet potatoes, gravy mix, cranberry sauce, Christmas cookies

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Missions: Mike and Kris Bridges
- AIM: Kaylee Bridges
- Nathaniel and Alexis Goodley-Washington, D.C.
- Grayson Carter-Ft. Riley
- Steve & Erma Izard
- Patrick Hutto
- Robin Smith
- Lisa Smith- Karen Oliver's Sister
- Gene Lowe-Vern Lowe's Father
- Marcello Assenza- Christine Stewart's Father
- Tom Dominick
- Chester Warren
- Mark Black, Kris Black's Father
- AJ & Jeanie McElfresh
- Leah Crocker
- George Westerman
- Kelli Daniel
- Karyl Buress
- Kathy Alexander & Family
- KJ Binnicker
- Fritz Stewart-George Stewart's Father
- Stephen and Amanda Wood & Family

JONAH PART 2

⁴ Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up.

When Jonah disobeyed, God sent him a storm. Not all trouble in our lives is the direct result of some specific sin but all sins bring trouble. Every act of disobedience to God has a storm attached to it. We cannot abuse our bodies and expect good health. We cannot treat the people in our lives badly and expect to maintain good relationships. We cannot live selfishly in our world and expect a well-functioning society. There is a storm (trouble) attached to every act of disobedience. When we violate God's purposes for our bodies, our friends and society, they strike back.

When we allow sin to take root in our hearts, things always get worse. If you allow yourself the secret pleasure of despising or thinking ill of someone, it increases your capacity to despise and think evil of everyone. It grows. My mother always told me not scratch the blisters caused by Poison Ivy. Scratching the itch only inflames and spreads the infection.

The storms (trouble) that God sends or allows in our lives are not punishment. They are intended to teach us and others in our lives, the things we need to know. God used the storm to make Jonah turn back and obey Him, but notice that the other sailors were caught up in the storm that was caused by Jonah. Even so, through Jonah's storm, the sailors were brought closer to the true God. We find this in verse 16: *.....the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him.* When God wanted to make Abraham a man who would one day become the father of all the faithful, He led him through many trials. He turned Joseph from a spoiled, arrogant child into a strong, wise and loving man through long periods of trouble. God turned Moses from an assuming elitist into the meekest man on earth by allowing him to spend 40 years taking care of another man's sheep. God uses the trouble in our lives to make us better, to make us more like Him.

God is truly concerned for us. When we hurt, He hurts. In Isaiah 63:9 we find; *"In all their distress he too was distressed."* When we are distressed, God is distressed. Trouble is not what God wants for us, but in trouble, He molds us into His image.

In the middle of the storm, Jonah could not see that God's great mercy was at work, drawing him back to God. Standing on this side of the cross, we can see that God can achieve His plans through weakness, suffering and loss. Everyone at the cross of Jesus saw only loss and defeat. What they were really seeing was the greatest victory ever won. God's salvation came to us through an act of suffering. So, we must see that there is mercy inside each of our storms.

Grace and peace,
The Shepherds

ASSEMBLY TIMES

- SUNDAY WORSHIP**
9:30AM
- SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS**
11:00 AM
- WEDNESDAY LADIES GROUP BIBLE STUDY**
7:00 PM

December 2nd, 2018
Weekly Statistics

- AM Bible Class: 59
AM Bible Class Avg: 73
- AM Assembly: 133
AM Assembly Avg: 131
- Contribution: \$5,436
YTD Average Weekly: \$7,508.00
- Weekly Budget: \$7,918.62

SHEPHERDS

- LARRY BAKER**
542.1600
- DENNIS CARTER**
957.4625
- RICK CHAMBERLAIN**
859.912.2384
- ROM KELLIS**
608.3423
- WAYNE KELLIS**
404.376.4085
- ERNIE OLIVER**
391.1312

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sign Up To Help:

- Honduras 2019 Fundraising**
<https://www.efundraising.com/lexingtonchurchofchrist>
- December Goodies**
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084aa5ad2fa0f94-december>
- Suzanne Kennedy**
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054cacaf2ca2fe3-rides>

Anniversaries:

- 12.3 Justin & Janna Muery
- 12.20 Tom & Karen Brophy
- 12.30 Corey & Dawn Wisniewski
- 12.31 Matt & Mary Joy

Birthdays:

- 12.6 Steve Baker
- 12.11 Karen Brophy
- 12.11 Dawn Wisniewski

LEXINGTON
CHURCH OF CHRIST

101 Ball Park Road
Lexington, SC 29072

Phone:803.359.2002
Fax: 803.359.5734
E-mail: office@ lexingtonchurch.net

ONLINE GIVING!

LEXINGTONCHURCH.NET

CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR
RECURRING PAYMENTS.

Opportunities to Serve
December 9, 2018

Worship:
Connor Watkins

Sound Room:
Mary Joy
Mike Spane

Lord’s Supper Comments:
Justin Muery

Servers in December:
Steve Baker
Kris Amaral
Ruben Macedo
Lance Daniel
Caleb Surface

Door Greeters in
December:
James Bost
Karen Bost

Nursery:
Earline White
Krysten Devereaux

Toddler:
Janna Muery
Judy Baker

Children’s Church:
Val Baker
Mary Joy

Communion Prep:
Krysten Devereaux

Coffee Clean-Up:
Jennymarie

Keep In Touch:

Billy “Patrick” Hutto Jr.
356437 D3/B14, WRCI
P.O. Box 189
Rembert, SC 29128-0189

SPC Grayson M. Carter
7886 Drum St.
Fort Riley, KS 66442
grayoncarter50@gmail.com

Ministry Leaders

James Bost, Guest Relations	360-3693
Karen Bost, Guest Relations	609-2847
Krysten Devereaux, Guest Relations	(304) 771-1126
Carol Brown, Ladies Ministry	446-5285
Justin Muery, Men's Ministry	(801) 726-6996
John Turner, Grounds	356-8153
Corey Wisniewski, Finance	951-8981
Lauren Brannan, Children	331-0155
Michael Spane, Security	600-2288
Cale Ferguson, Life Groups	212-5202
Dave Hill, Benevolence	645-3273

Minister: Keke Brooks

Cell Phone: (803) 608-8436, E-mail: kekebrooks204@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Dawn Wisniewski

Cell Phone: (803) 348-0084; 951-8981, E-Mail: dawn@lexingtonchurch.net

Children's Ministry Leader: Lauren Brannan

Cell Phone: (803) 331-0155, E-Mail: laurenb0529@gmail.com

Counselor: Karen Close

Cell Phone: (803) 261-9889; 520-7821, E-mail: KClose@sc.rr.com

Worship Leader: Connor Watkins

Cell Phone: (843) 670-5375, E-mail: cwatkins89@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Andrea Howard

Office Phone: (803) 359-2002, E-mail: office@lexingtonchurch.net

Missionaries:

Mission UpReach in Honduras: Mike, Kris, Kaylee Bridges

YOUTH NEWS

Hey family!

The Christmas season is quickly approaching and somehow December is already about to begin! The festivities are already filling the calendar, but I want to take a second to encourage you to also be intentional about reminding your kids and centering your family around the real reason for the season. There are endless ways to do this, but I'm going to suggest a few. This isn't meant to be something to stress over, but I do think if you take the time to do at least one of these things it will enrich your Christmas season and bless your family. Certainly you do NOT need to cram all of these into your schedule, I just want to suggest several in hopes that one of them will be feasible and enjoyable for you and your kids.

Christmas Calendar: Any calendar will work for this, even a printed google calendar :)

Each day in December, take a minute to remind the family of the reason for celebrating, have them recite a Christmas verse, and then let them take turns crossing off the date. Our family uses **Isaiah 9:6- For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Other great options are John 1:14 or Luke 2:11.

Nativity Play: As your children play with a nativity set or color a nativity scene, talk about each person and each piece as it relates to the Christmas story. You could also have them "act out" the Christmas story using the pieces and help them remember the significance of each character.

Bible Reading: Before bedtime or any time you get to snuggle up on the couch, keep a Bible nearby and read a chapter from Luke or the Christmas story from a chil-

dren's Bible. Even the littlest ones catch on to more than you would imagine and that time will bless each of you. There are 24 chapters in Luke so reading a chapter each day will help remind us of our wonderful Savior leading up to Christmas Day. God sent his Son as a helpless baby and He grew up just like you and I do. He had to learn how to walk, read and write, He helped people in need, He shared God's love, and then He showed us how much he loves us by dying FOR us and being raised from the dead to defeat even death. There's nothing quite like a review of the Gospel to get my heart ready for the season ahead!

Christmas Songs: Kids love singing and there are so many songs related to Christmas that help remind us of the reason we celebrate. Classics like Silent Night, Away in a Manger, and so many more are easy to sing and easy to begin conversation about the birth of Christ. You may be surprised by how many they may already know! Our kids love to sing Happy Birthday, Jesus and I'll admit I tear up almost every time hearing their sweet voices sing to the King.

God sent his Son to be the Savior of the world! That is the reason we celebrate this season. I encourage you to take any opportunity to hide this truth into the hearts of your children this Christmas. And who knows- maybe the time spent in conversations about the season, reading the Word together, saying a verse together, or singing songs together will become a beautiful routine that you can continue into the New Year!

I hope you will all be able to join us for **Breakfast with Santa-** December 15th at 9:30am (RSVP by Dec. 9)

Free pancake breakfast, Christmas crafts, reading the Christmas story, and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus!

Praying every blessing for you and your family throughout the Christmas season! **With Christ's Love,** Lauren Brannan